

USIA SURVEY

Memorandum of Meeting of 21 April 1954  
1778 Pennsylvania Avenue, 10:00 to 12:00 a.m.

Members of Survey:

Mr. James Q. Reber, CIA



25X  
1

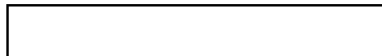
Observers: USIA

Mr. Henry Loomis, SA/DIR  
Mr. Bernard Wiesman, IOP/Functional  
Policy and Programs Staff-Labor  
Mr. John Vebber, IBS/Office of the  
Program Manager  
Dr. D. Elton Trueblood, IOP/Functional  
Policy and Programs Staff-Religion

State

Mr. Fisher Howe, Deputy Special Assistant,  
Intelligence

CIA



25X  
1

I. LABOR

Mr. Bernard Wiesman

1. Function: To provide policy and operational guidance in  
the field of Labor.

2. Intelligence Already Obtained: Mr. Wiesman already  
receives most of the finished intelligence which is in the form of  
periodic digests and summaries. He also obtains information from  
such non-governmental sources as U.S. Labor unions. When  
Mr. Wiesman is able to anticipate an intelligence need, and time  
permits, he achieves some success in obtaining the services of  
State and the International Labor Affairs Office of The Labor  
Department. He obtains whatever domestic (U.S.) information  
is available from the Labor Department, other U.S. agencies, and  
from his non-governmental labor sources.

State Department review completed

### **3. Foreign Intelligence Needs:**

a. **Intelligence Information:** Mr. Wiesman no longer has access to the full flow of Foreign Service communications which he had while in State. He does not feel that he would be able to screen all of these communications at this time, he needs from them a digest of information pertinent to foreign labor activity. Comparable to this source would be similar information from CIA reports.

Intelligence information of a current nature would permit Mr. Wiesman to develop guidance for operations along specific lines. For example, Japanese labor is very sensitive to statements on A or H-Bombs and this sensitivity is exploited by the Communists. Upon learning that the Communists plan to exploit this sensitivity of Japanese labor on May 1st. next, Mr. Wiesman shaped a guidance to the field to counter this Communist move. The information he received on the May Day Communist effort was received too late for finished intelligence to be produced, such information having come from WFTU communications in Europe and Mexico City. With earlier information on such a Soviet program, Mr. Wiesman would have been able to request intelligence research. In any event, the instance serves as an example of his need for intelligence information, i.e. on "targets of opportunity."

b. **Finished Intelligence:** Mr. Wiesman presented two examples of Soviet propaganda used in Britain and Germany respectively to show desirable conditions of Soviet labor. To counter such propaganda, Mr. Wiesman needs comparable U. S. data to show the better position of U. S. labor vis-avis Russian labor. More important, however, Mr. Wiesman needs a practical picture (as against the picture presented by Soviet propaganda) of the conditions of labor in Russia, including slave labor. The information on U. S. labor is relatively easy to obtain, either from the Department of Labor or trade unions, or both. However, the U. S. Information Agency looks to intelligence agencies for studies on Russian labor and graphic and similar support for USIA publications.

4. **Responsibility for Intelligence Collection:** At present, Mr. Wiesman looks principally to Mr. Olom to obtain either information or finished intelligence. However, there is a great

**CONFIDENTIAL**

deal of free-wheeling by the United States Information Agency staff, particularly the media services. As in every organization they have build individual contacts in other agencies and exploit them for intelligence purposes. This results in many unrelated calls being placed on the intelligence and other agencies for information.

Question: As there is apparently some confusion in the U. S. Information Agency with respect to the collection responsibility, which apparently is divided among program and intelligence people, the survey group should examine the desirability of establishing in USIA a unit comparable to State/IAD or CIA/OCD. This should not indicate that interagency contacts of program personnel and the collection responsibility of such a unit would be mutually exclusive but rather should be complementary, with such a unit carrying the responsibility for collection coordination. At present Mr. Olem's CPI Staff includes collection people in State/IAD.

**CONFIDENTIAL**

**Question:** As a part of the previous question, the provision of photographic intelligence should be examined as an example of the intelligence collection responsibility. (At present Mr. Wiesman indicates that photographic intelligence support is very poor.)

**5. Availability of Intelligence to USIA from Non-Governmental Sources:** Mr. Wiesman apparently receives a considerable amount of foreign labor intelligence information from non-governmental sources.

**Question:** How can this intelligence be made available to the community and how could its collection be coordinated with similar collection activities by other government agencies?

**6. Miscellaneous:** Private labor organizations are used as a media for USIA dissemination which should not be attributed to the U. S. Government. Unclassified summaries of foreign press are very useful to Mr. Wiesman.

**Question:** FDD should be checked for possible provision of unclassified summaries on foreign labor from foreign publications.

## **II RELIGION (see papers 20-25)**

**Dr. D. Elton Trueblood**

**1. Program:** Dr. Trueblood indicated that, because religion is a most important drive among peoples, USIA should be knowledgeable of religion and religious activities in foreign countries in order to aid in delineating the U. S. to those countries as primarily a spiritual country and not merely a country which produces H-Bombs. He said the President has emphasized the spiritual aspects of the U. S. many times in his public speeches. He stressed that religion is the important opposite of dialectic materialism.

### **2. Intelligence Needs:**

**a. Basic Research:** Most of the religious movements have been the subject of voluminous private scholarly research and there should be no need for intelligence to provide such research at this time.

**b. Intelligence Information:** Dr. Trueblood feels that the most pertinent present intelligence need in the religious

**CONFIDENTIAL**

field is for information on the manipulation of religious groups by the Soviet Union to turn these groups against the U. S. In addition, information on religious conferences and biographic intelligence on religious leaders is needed. With such information Dr. Trueblood feels it will be possible, while identifying the spiritual interests of the U. S. public with the spiritual interests of the foreign religious groups (Moslems, Buddhists, etc.), to expose and discredit the Soviet effort.

3. Non-Governmental Intelligence Sources: Dr. Trueblood has many non-governmental contacts, both U. S. and foreign, among religious leaders. It was pointed out that information thus received would be as interesting to intelligence as similar intelligence-received information would be to USIA. It was also explained that "intelligence," in this sense, is not a cloak-and-dagger operation but a mere tool to aid the USIA by supplying collated information.

VOICE OF AMERICA

Mr. John Vebber

Arrangements were made with Mr. Vebber for the survey team to contact IBS personnel in New York next Wednesday and Thursday, April 28 and 29. Mr. Vebber will arrange a schedule for Wednesday, and for Thursday morning, leaving Thursday afternoon open for follow-up. The Terms of Reference of the survey have already been sent to New York with the object of avoiding a general orientation for the survey group, which might be time-consuming.

**CONFIDENTIAL**